

**IN THE CLAIMS**

**Please amend claim 1 and add claims 21-23 as follows:**

1. (Amended) A joining structure comprising:

a first member having a serration portion; and

a second member to be joined to the serration portion, wherein the first member has a surface contact portion at location adjacent to the serration portion to be surface-contacted with the second member;

the first member is a metal yoke of a propeller shaft; and

the second member is a fiberglass reinforced plastic cylinder of the propeller shaft.

2. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 1, wherein:

the serration portion is provided at a pressure insertion end portion of the first member;

the second member has a pressure insertion portion to be pressure-inserted and joined to the serration portion;

the surface contact portion includes a step portion provided between a leading end portion of the pressure insertion end portion and the serration portion to extend in an axial direction; and

a diameter of the step portion is equal to a diameter of the pressure insertion portion or set between the diameter of the pressure insertion portion and a diameter of the serration portion.

3. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 2, wherein:

the serration portion is provided to an outer circumferential surface of the pressure insertion end portion;

the pressure insertion portion of the second member is hollow; and

(<sup>A1</sup>  
<sup>comd1</sup>)  
an outer diameter of the step portion is not smaller than an inner diameter of the pressure insertion portion, and is smaller than an outer diameter of the serration portion.

~~4.~~ (Previously Withdrawn)

5. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 2, wherein:

the first member is a metal member; and

the second member is a resin member.

6. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 2, wherein:

after the second member is joined to the serration portion of the first member, the step portion is in non-contact with the second member.

7. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 2, wherein:

the first member has a chamfering portion extended from the leading end portion to the step portion.

8. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 2, wherein:

<sup>A2</sup>  
the step portion is connected to the serration portion through an inclined surface.

9. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 2, wherein:

the step portion is connected to the serration portion through an inclined surface; and

a relief portion in the form of a recess is provided to a connection portion between the inclined surface and the step portion.

A<sub>2</sub>  
(canceled)

10. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 3, wherein:  
the step portion is tapered so that the outer diameter of the step portion is made smaller toward the leading end portion.

~~11.~~ (Previously Withdrawn)

12. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 3, wherein:  
the serration portion is tapered so that the outer diameter of the serration  
A<sub>3</sub> portion is made smaller toward to the leading end portion.

~~13.~~ (Previously Withdrawn)

14. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 2, wherein:  
the step portion is formed by partially removing addendum portions of the serration portion.

A<sub>4</sub>  
15. (Original) A joining structure according to claim 2, wherein:  
the step portion is formed cylindrically between the leading end portion and the serration portion.

16. (Canceled)

~~17-20~~ (Previously Withdrawn)

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21. (New) A joining structure according to claim 2, wherein:  
the pressure insertion end portion of the first member is hollow;  
the serration portion is provided to an inner circumferential surface of the pressure insertion portion; and

an inner diameter of the step portion is not larger than the pressure insertion portion, and is larger than an inner diameter of the serration portion.

AS  
(cont'd)

22. (New) A joining structure according to claim 21, wherein:  
the step portion is tapered so that the inner diameter of the step portion is made larger toward the leading end portion.

23. (New) A joining structure according to claim 22, wherein:  
the serration portion is tapered so that the inner diameter of the serration portion is made larger toward the leading end portion.